

Message Text

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ATTN PARIS FOR MARK PRATT

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SOPN, XC, US

SUBJECT: MARCH 31 EA PRESS SUMMARY

1. CHINA

CUNARD SHIP LINES ANNOUNCES QUEEN ELIZABETH II NEXT YR WILL
BECOME FIRST WESTERN CRUISE SHIP ALLOWED DOCK IN PRC PORT.
SAYS AGREEMENT REACHED W/PEKING FOR VESSEL TO DOCK AT DAIREN
AS PART OF ITS '79 "AROUND THE WORLD IN 80 DAYS" CRUISE.
CUNARD SPOKESMAN SAYS THAT NEXT YR ALL 1,400 PASSENGERS ON
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CRUISE WILL BE ALLOWED TRAVEL 1,000 MILES BY TRAIN FROM
DAIREN TO PEKING; PASSENGERS WILL HAVE FIXED 5-DAY ITINERARY
WHILE IN COUNTRY; PRC WILL REFUSE SOUTH AFRICANS/ISRAELIS
ADMITTANCE. ADDS THAT 1,400 PASSENGERS EXPECTED VISIT PRC
WOULD BE LARGEST WESTERN TOUR GROUP THERE SINCE TOURISTS
PERMITTED ENTRY IN '75 (UPI, JOC).

2. INDONESIA

GOI SAID THURS IT HAS RELEASED 131 JAILED STUDENT PROTESTERS

SINCE LAST WK'S CONCLUSION OF GENERAL SESSION INDO PARLIAMENT (AP, WP JAKARTA).

NEW DEPUTY ARMED FORCES CHIEF, ADM SUDOMO, SAID FRI THAT GOI WILL BRING TO TRIAL ABOUT 150 YOUNG PEOPLE ARRESTED IN PAST 3 MONTHS FOR OPPOSING SUHARTO ADMIN; ADDED THAT ABOUT 150 OTHERS BEING HELD WILL BE RELEASED (REUTER JAKARTA).

SUHARTO ANNOUNCES "DEVELOPMENT" CABINET--RETAINING MOST TECHNOCRATS IN MAJOR MINISTERIAL POSTS, WHILE MAKING SOME CHANGES TO ENSURE CONTINUITY IN GOVT'S DEVELOPMENT EFFORTS. ANNOUNCING NEW LINEUP, SAYS CABINET'S TASKS WOULD BE ACHIEVE "MORE EQUITABLE DISTRIBUTION OF DEVELOPMENT"/REASONABLY HIGH ECON GROWTH RATE (UPI, JOC).

3. NEW ZEALAND

ECON RESEARCH INSTITUTE HAS FORECAST LOWER INFLATION, BUT ONLY DOWN TO 12 PCT. ALSO SAYS ANY NATL ECON IMPROVEMENT WOULD NOT OCCUR UNTIL AFTER 1ST QTR '79. STUDY ALSO SEES SHARP DECLINE IN EXPORTS/GREATER BOP DEFICIT/RISING IMPORTS (MCLAUCHLAN, JOC).

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4. KOREA

SK FON MINISTRY SOURCES HAVE HINTED THEY MIGHT COOPERATE IN OBTAINING TESTIMONY FROM FORMER SK AMB KIM DONG JO. SAID COOPERATION WOULD BE GIVEN SO LONG AS KIM SPARED APPEARING IN PERSON BEFORE CONGRESSIONAL INVESTIGATORS. SEOUL NEWSPAPERS INDICATED CONGRESSIONAL FIGURES WOULD BE ALLOWED "TALK" W/KIM IN SEOUL (NYT).

US ARMY HAS ASKED COMMENT FROM COMMUNITIES INVOLVED ON SOCIAL/ECON IMPACT OF 2ND INFANTRY'S PHASED RETURN FROM SEOUL. FORTS BENNING (GA)/DIX (NJ)/DRUM (NY) BEING STUDIED AS POSSIBLE STATIONS FOR ALL/PART OF DIVISION (REUTER 3/30).

HK POLICE DETECTIVE FOK HAS MADE WHAT HE TERMED 100 PCT SURE IDENTIFICATION OF RECEIPT HANCHO KIM ALLEGEDLY GAVE KCIA AGENT FOR 300,000 DOLS TO BE USED FOR INFLUENCING CONGRESS (O'LEARY, WSTAR 3/30).

5. KOREA/JAPAN

SK HAS SUFFERED DEFICITS TOTALING OVER 10 BIL DOLS IN TRADE W/JAPAN SINCE 1966. PRES PARK, AT TRADE PROMO MTG THIS WG TOLD CABINET MINS ROKG/BUSINESS SHOULD MAKE JOINT EFFORT CUT DEFICITS BY DIVERSIFYING IMPORT MKTS (UPI, JOC).

6. JAPAN

FUKUDA HAS ORDERED POLICE TIGHTEN SECURITY AROUND NARITA, WHILE OTHER GOJ OFFICIALS INDICATED THEY WOULD STUDY PROPOSAL TO SUPPLY PISTOLS TO RIOT POLICE. HOWEVER, NO PROPOSALS FOR NEW LEGISLATION TO CRACK DOWN ON RADICALS CAME FROM PM/CABINET DURING DIET QUESTIONING (MARTIN, SUN TOKYO, 3/30).
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CABINET DECIDES OPEN NARITA AIRPORT MID-MAY, BUT FIXING OF SPECIFIC DATE HELD OVER UNTIL NEXT WK'S CABINET MTG, DUE LACK EFFECTIVE SECURITY MEASURES AT AIRPORT. MEANWHILE, POLICE HAVE BRACED FOR POSSIBLE VIOLENCE AT "VICTORY RALLIES" PROTESTORS HAVE PLANNED FOR THIS WEEKEND (REUTER'S MORITA, TOKYO).

REUTER'S FOLEY (NARITA 3/30) DOES NEWSFEATURE ON AIPIRT RIOTS. REVIEWS VIOLENT EVENTS OVER WEEKEND, NOTING ORIGINAL FARMERS' PROTEST HAS EVOLVED INTO LEFTIST FORUM FOR ANTI-GOVT/ANTI-CAPITALIST VIEWS. CITES NEW STUDY UNDERWAY TO DETERMINE WHETHER POLICE SHOULD BE ALLOWED USE FIREARMS, RATHER THAN BEING ARMED ONLY W/TEAR GAS/CLUBS.

DOLLAR RECOVERED AGAINST YEN IN TOKYO 3/30, BUT CLOSED LOWER AGAINST MOST OTHER EUR CURRENCIES. TOKYO DEALERS WARNED, HOWEVER, THAT RECOVERY ONLY "PASSING PHENOMENON," ADDING YEN WOULD PROBABLY CONTINUE RISE (WSJ; REUTER LONDON, 3/30).

FRENCH FILM STAR BRIGITTE BARDOT JOINED ANGRY P,OTESTS FROM AROUND WORLD IN DENOUNCING KILLING 100 PORPOISES BY IKI ISLE FISHERMEN 3/30. IN OPEN LETTER TO FUKUDA PUBLISHED IN TOKYO THURS, BARDOT ALSO PROTESTED JAPANESE WHALING/IMPORTS CANADIAN BABY SEAL FUR (REUTER TOKYO 3/30).

7. JAPAN/THAILAND

JAPAN EXTENDED 146.3-MIL-DOL UNCONDITIONAL LOAN TO THAILAND WEDS IN RESPONSE TO PLEDGE FUKUDA MADE
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DURING OFFICIAL BANGKOK VISIT LAST YR (UPI, JOC).

8. PHILIPPINES

WORLD'S MAJOR RICE CONSUMING COUNTRIES HAVE AGREED

HOLD NEXT ANNUAL CONF IN MANILA EARLY 1979. DECISION SAID TO FOCUS ATTENTION ON PHILS' TURNAROUND FROM RICE IMPORTER TO EXPORTER AT TIME WHEN PRODUCTION

LEVELS IN MOST COUNTRIES ON DECLINE (UPI, JCO).

JOC'S LORENZ (CORREGIDOR) DOES ITEM ON PHILS' DEVELOPMENT/TOURISM INCREASE IN LAST 25 YRS. FOCUSES ON IMELDA'S PENCHANT FOR EARNING TOURIST/CONVENTION DOLLARS BY BUILDING ACRES OF GLITTERING INTL SPAS.

9. MALAYSIA

KL CENTRAL BANK SAYS COUNTRY'S ECON GROWTH SLOWED DOWN LAST YR, REGISTERING 7 PCT GNP INCREASE COMPARED TO 11 PCT GROWTH LAST YR. BANK REPORT ADDED, HOWEVER, THAT MALAYSIAN ECON "POISED FOR FURTHER EXPANSION" (UPI, JOC).

10. INDOCHINA REFUGEES

NYT'S GWERTZMAN SAYS PRES CARTER HAS APPROVED ELEMENTS OF INTERIM REFUGEE POLICY THAT WILL PERMIT ADMISSION ALL VIET "BOAT PEOPLE" REFUSED ASYLUM ELSEWHERE, AND OF THOSE INDO-CHINESE IN REFUGEE CAMPS WHO HAVE CLOSE FAMILY/POL TIES TO US. QUOTES ADMIN OFFICIALS THAT PENDING OK OF NEW LONG-TERM REFUGEE LEGISLATION, INTERIM PROCEDURES PROBABLY MEANT ABOUT 25,000 ADDITIONAL INDOCHINESE WOULD BE GRANTED US ENTRY IN NEXT YR.

COMMENT AND ANALYSIS
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11. CHINA

WP'S MATHEWS (HK) OBSERVES HUA/TENG HAVE REVEALED FOR 1ST TIME WHAT APPEAR SHARP DIFFERENCES OVER EDUCATION ISSUE. NOTES HUA, IN LENGTHY 3/24 SPEECH TO NATL SCIENCE CONF, "SEEMINGLY CHALLENGED" TENG'S PROGRAM, ANNOUNCED 6 DAYS EARLIER, TO SOFT-PEDAL POL STUDY/QUICKLY TRAIN TECHNICAL ELITE TO SAVE ECONOMY. MATHEWS FINDS IMPOSSIBLE SAY WHERE THIS DIFFERENCE OF OPINION WILL LEAD. REPORTS HK OBSERVERS BELIEVE CHINESE LEADERSHIP AT THIS STAGE WOULD SEEK PREVENT ANY SERIOUS DISRUPTIONS, PARTICULARLY SINCE IT HAS JUST BEGUN RECOVER FROM FACTIONAL FIGHTING/ECON TROUBLES OF '76. NEVERTHELESS, FEELS HUA'S SPEECH SEEMS SIGNAL HE IS NOT ENTIRELY IN AGREEMENT W/LINE BEING PURSUED UNDER TENG'S DIRECTION AND MAY IN YRS HENCE, AFTER ECON STRONGER, ASSERT HIS OPINION AGAINST THOSE OF OLDER BUREAUCRATS LIKE TENG WHO NOW SEEM HOLD SWAY.

MATHEWS NOTES THIS IS 1ST TIME HUA HAS CLEARLY DIFFERED

W/MORE EXPERIENCED TENG ON POLICY IN 8 MONTHS THEY HAVE RULED ATOP POST-MAO HIERARCHY. SAYS ALTHOUGH THEY

COMPLIMENTED EACH OTHER IN THEIR SPEECHES, THEIR WORDS SUGGEST POTENTIAL FOR REVIVAL SOMEDAY OF DEBATE THAT HAS SEVERELY SPLIT CHINESE LEADERSHIP SEVERAL TIMES/BROUGHT GREAT POL/ECON TURMOIL IN LAST 2 DECADES. NOTES HUA/TENG POL DIFFERENCES HAVE SO FAR BEEN CONFINED TO FEW VEILED NEWSPAPER ATTACKS BY TENG'S SUPPORTERS ON POLITBURO MEMBERS CLOSE TO HUA WHO PARTICIPATED IN '76 CAMPAIGN AGAINST TENG. FEELS BOTH APPEAR STRONGLY COMMITTED TO FORESTALLING ANY OPEN DISAGREEMENT THAT WOULD INTERFERE W/THEIR SHARED GOAL OF RAPID ECON MODERNIZATION. FINDS UNCLASSIFIED

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HUA'S SPEECH HITTING AT PROBABLE WEAKNESS IN NEW TENG-INSPIRED POLICIES, LIKE NATL COLLEGE ENTRANCE EXAM.

MATHEWS OBSERVES HUA/TENG ALSO SEEMED DIFFER ON AMOUNT OF AUTONOMY SCIENTISTS SHOULD HAVE IN RUNNING LABS, THO BOTH APPEARED AGREE COMPLETELY ON NEED TO STUDY FON SCIENTIFIC ADVANCES/BUY SOME FON EQUIPMENT TO ACCELERATE CHINESE PROGRESS.

12. CHINA/THAILAND/ASEAN

JOC'S LORENZ (BANGKOK) SAYS FACT THAT PREMIER KRIANGSAK VISITED PEKING LAST WK--ACCOMPANIED BY FULLY 8 CABINET MINISTERS--LEAVING HALF HIS GOVT AT HOME ONLY 5 MONTHS AFTER LAST COUP, INDICATED IMPORTANCE HE IS ATTACHING TO FRIENDLY RELS W/PEKING. SEES IT ALSO SUGGESTING KRIANGSAK NOW HAS THINGS REASONABLY WELL UNDER CONTROL, AT LEAST AMONG FEUDING MIL FACTIONS. FEELS PREMIER'S TALKS W/HUA LIKELY BE HIGHLY PRODUCTIVE/WILL ALSO SERVE THAW FURTHER RELS BETWN ASEAN BLOC/PRC.

ACCORDING LORENZ, DRAFT AGREEMENT ON FURTHER INCREASING SINO-THAI TRADE WHICH KRIANGSAK TAKING W/HIM WILL PRESUMABLY BE MERGED W/ONE PEKING HAS PREPARED, AND THEIR DIFFERENCES NEGOTIATED. SAYS IT IS EXPECTED THAIS WILL SEEK ASSURANCE OF CRUDE OIL SUPPLIES FROM PRC/TALKS BETWN COMMUNICATIONS OFFICIALS WILL RAISE POSSIBILITY OF THAI AIRLINE OVERFLYING MAINLAND ON ROUTE TO TOKYO. NOTES, HOWEVER, TYPICAL DIALECTICAL AMBIGUITY STILL REMAINS: PRC SAYS ITS CP STILL SUPPORTS THAI CP, ALTHO PEKING LEADERSHIP ITSELF SUPPORTS MALAYSIA-INITIATED CONCEPT OF SEA AS ZONE OF PEACE/FREEDOM/NEUTRALITY. COOPER

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